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COUNTRY: Thailand
SUBJECT: Health and Sanitation
Data - Bangkok
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Pages: 2

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1. The Health Department in Bangkok is composed of six divisions: VD control, TB Control, Malaria control, communicable diseases control, Maternal and Child Welfare, and Food and Drug Control. The Health Department works in cooperation with another governmental office, Medical Sciences Department, in all laboratory work.
2. Ninety percent of the 300 thousand people in Bangkok use the public water supply, operated by the government. The water is produced from a canal by rapid sand filtration, treated with chlorine, and distributed by pipes. People are not allowed to bathe or wash in the canal. The sanitary condition of the water is checked by physicians from a governmental laboratory.
3. The Health Department provides control over all food processing except fish and shellfish. Bottled cow's milk is tested by a government laboratory. It is all pasteurized.
4. The sanitary sewerage system is supplemented by septic tanks, but some land is fertilized by human excreta and vegetables are grown on the same land. The drainage system is adequate to carry surface runoff. The ultimate disposition of sewage is the sea. There are no storm sewers nor open ditches and surface water does not collect and stand after a heavy rain.
5. There is daily collection of garbage which is ultimately burned, or buried. Refuse is collected. The human dead are either buried or cremated. The government exercises control over all pests.
6. There are 10 hospitals in Bangkok with a total of one thousand beds, three-fourths of which are charity beds. All medical services and common drugs are readily available.
7. Children are immunized against diphtheria, smallpox, typhoid and cholera; adults against smallpox and typhoid. Children are most

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affected by malnutrition and polio.

8. Education in Bangkok is inadequate for the needs but English is taught in secondary schools. At the college level, there are special courses for training in Public Health. Thailand can synthesize sulfa drugs and all other common drugs.

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